



News Release

#02-102

Contact: Mark Fawver
Public Affairs Officer
Caltrans - (530) 225-3260

California Department of Transportation
District 2, Redding
Brian Crane, District Director

September 30, 2002

Highway Info - 1-800-427-7623
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interstate 5 Detour to be Lifted at Dunsmuir

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation is set to return northbound Interstate 5 traffic to the original northbound lanes at Dunsmuir after a nearly four month long detour. The four-mile detour into the southbound lanes allowed construction crews and equipment to remove the old asphalt concrete roadbed and replace it with a new Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (PCCP). The new PCCP has a 40-year design life, helping to eliminate the costly maintenance repairs performed yearly over the past decade. The three northbound lanes and shoulders of I-5 were replaced from the Sacramento River Bridge to just short of Mott Road, south of Mt. Shasta, a total of 3.3 miles. The one-foot thick PCCP sits on four inches of cement treated base, eight inches of recycled asphalt concrete grindings from the old roadway surface and a new underground drainage system to help eliminate the subsurface water.

The Dunsmuir Grade Rehabilitation Project was the first use of PCCP in northern California's District 2 in over 30 years. Much of the original PCCP used in the early construction of the Interstate corridor have been covered with Asphalt Concrete as it reached its useful life after the projected 20 year life span when designed in the 1960's.

Workers and equipment from the Granite Construction Co. began work in mid-June to remove the old roadway and have since placed 60,000 tonne (26,000 Cubic Meters) of the PCCP at a cost of \$3,500,000. The \$25 million project, nearly 75% complete, is scheduled to go into winter suspension, as the colder temperatures are not conducive to the remaining paving operations. The project is expected to be completed next spring.

The northbound detour is scheduled to be removed and traffic will be returned to their respective lanes beginning tonight, Monday, September 30, at 9:00 PM.

###